THE TAMMANY SOCIETY.

Its Origin and Its Past and Present History.

WHAT IT HAS DONE.

Its Leading Spirits and Its Power in Local Affairs.

A LIVELY SOCIATY NINETY YEARS OLD.

The legendary lore, so called, that fanciful writers have thrown around the mythical Indian Chief by the name of Tammany is not worthy of serious no tice. There seems to have been, in William Penn's days, an Indian chief named Tamaneud, with whom others Penn made treaties; but no fair relation of facts can make a famous man of this Indian. It is said that Trumbull, the author of "McFingall," was the originator of the name St. Tammany, and that "saint" was put to obscure old Tamanend's name to ridicule the propensity of the people for "saints," such as St. George, St. Denis, St. Andrew, St. David and other foreign saints, who already gave names to societies in the new land of liberty. And so St. Tammany was canonized—in the political index.

FORMATION OF THE SOCIETY. Washington was inaugurated President at the old City Hall (where the Sub-Treasury now stands), at Wall and Nassau streets, on the 30th of April, 1789. Two weeks afterward the "St. Tammany Society, or lependent Order of Liberty" (for that was its original name), was organized, and its existence was

thus announced:—
This being an American society, consists of native born, who fill all offices, and adopted Americans, who are eligible to the posts of warnor and hunter. The officers are one Grand Sachem, twelve sachems, one secretary and one doorkeeper. The officers for the present year are:—William Mooney, Grand Sachem; William Matlack, brewer; Philip Hone, carpenter; John Burger, goldsmith; Jonathan Pierce, tavern keeper; Thomas Greenleaf, printer; James Tylee, inspector of leather; John Campbell, grocer; Gabriel Furman, corker; Abel Butcher, Oliver Glean and Joseph Goodwin, sachems; Thomas Ash, chairmaker, treasurer; Anthony Ernst, secretary; Gardner Baker, shoemaker, doorkeeper.

There are no great men in this list, and fow to be

beemaker, doorkeeper.

There are no great men in this list, and few to be emembered at all. Mooney was himself of Irish escent, so there must have been some power behind izens from holding office. [We believe that restricon still continues,] Mooney was an upholsterer, then keeper of a porter house and finally Keeper of the Almshouse, which position he filled when he died. He was active in the Society, and its Grand Bachem, for more than thirty years.

WAS AABON BURN THE MAN? en supposed that the real founder of the Tammany Society was Aaron Burr, who was so intimate with Mooney as to owe him several large bills was meant to counteract the aristocratic Society of the Cincinnati, of which Washington was the head, and all the members of which were from the army or navy. Subsequent events showed that the Tammany people were in favor of Burr and bitterly opposed to

BIG GUNS COMING IN. It was not long before the society started by shoe makers and carpenters attracted the attention of other classes, and among its early members we fine the eminent lawyer, Josiah Ogden Hoffman. He was immediately followed by such men as Cadwallader C. Colden, John and Robert Swartwout, Benjamin Ro maine, Judah Hammond, Melancthon Smith, Stephen Allen, Clarkson Crolius, Napthali Judah, Walter Bowne, John Targee, Peter Sharpe and others who were or who soon became magnates in the republican (subsequently democratic) party.

In its second year the name of the society was modified by dropping "Sons of Liberty." It was proposed to substitute "Order of St. Columbus," but the discoverer was a foreigner, and so for a time St. Tammany was continued; but not long after the "St." was dropped, and at last the society got a legal name in the act of incorporation, passed in 1805; that name was and now is "The Tammany Society or

The society first met at Barden's City Tavern, in Broadway; then at Martling's "Long Boom," in an contemptuously called "The Pig Pen." There was a carouse after each session, and songs were sung. er drank and pipes smoked. Fitz Greene Halleci

For a seat and a pipe 'mid the jovial throng.

In order to be unmistakably native American the Tammany Society was divided into tribes, each headed by a sachem. Each of the thirteen original States represented a tribe, and was named after some animal. New York was the Eagle tribe, New Hampshire the Otter, Massachusetts the Panther, Ihode Island the Beaver, Connecticut the Bear, New Jersey the Tortoise, Pennsylvania the Ratticanake, Delaware the Tiger, Maryland the Fox, Virginia the Deer, North Carolina the Burfalo, South Carolina the Burfalo, South Carolina the Ratcoon and Georgia the Wolf. When a member was initiated he indicated what tribe he would join. In its early parades the society formed in such tribes, and appeared in Indian contume, with bows and arrows, tomahawks and knives.

indicated what tribe he would join. In its early parades the society formed in such tribes, and appeared in Indian costume, with bows and arrows, tomahawks and knives.

Soon after the society was organized about thirty prominent chiefs of the Creek Indians, led by Alexander McGillivray, a half-breek, visited President Washington (the federal government was then in this city), and before they left the real Indians were entertained by the bogus red men of Tammany. When the Creeks entered the Wigwam they saw, as they supposed, some of their own people, and raised a whoop of joy that made the bogus Indians turn pale. The Creeks sung and danced for joy; Wm. Pitt Smith, the Grand Sachem, made a speech to them; the calumet was smoked and the waters of the great spring duly sampled, after which the whole crowd went to the Park Theatre. At this caronae were such men as Governor George Clinton, Chief Justice John Jay, Mayor James Duane and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson. Before the Creeks went home they concluded a treaty with Washington, whom they called the "Chief of the Thirteen Fires," alluding to the thirteen tribes they had seen represented in the Tammany Society.

In its second year the society established a museum for collecting and preserving things relating to the history of the country. The Common Council gave a room in the City Hall, and Gardner Baker took charge. This collection formed the beginning of Scudder's Museum, and Scudder's was the beginning of the American Museum, which for so many years occupied the site of the present Harando office.

FESTIVALS AND PARADES.

The annual election of officers was on the second Monday of April, and they took their places a month atterward, when there was a paraite, generally a march to some garden or tavera out of town, a dinner, speeches, xc., and sometimes fireworks at night. For a long time the people observed these parades as they did any other holiday. There were special attractions at the theory of many years very particular in the observance of the Fourt

day nor the other holidays, of course excepting its own.

POLITICAL ACTION.

It does not outwardly appear that the Tammany Society was started as a partisan institution. But in those days party spirit was intense and party warfare fierce and bitter. What we now call hot lights would have seemed lovefeasts to Burr and Hamilton. The abuse heaped upon George Washington could not in those days find vent in any respectable newspaper, though directed to some modern Arnold. The men who made the Tammany Society could not be kept out of politics; no one could in those days. In 1800 defferson and Burr were candidates for President. A year before the federalists carried New York city by a large majority. In 1800 Tammany went in strong for Burr, captured the city from the federalists, and produced a tie in the Electoral College between Jefferson and Burr. Jefferson was finally chosen by the House of Representatives. It was in this election that Tammany was first charged with "ways that were dark." There was a property qualification for voters in this State, but all "owners of real estate" could vote. It is charged that Tammany men (some say the society as a body) furnished money to buy two houses, one in the Fourth and one in the Fifth ward. The first one had (at the polls) no less than seventy-one "owners of real estate," and consequently voters, while the other had thirty-nine. Among the young men who were want became famous were Daniel D. Tompkins, Governor of the State, and Vice President Richard Riker, the famous Recorder; William P. Yan Ness, Thomas

Henthell, Edward Ferris, Robert Swartwout, John L. Broome and Tunis Wortman, Clerk of the Common Council.

Council.

It is further recorded that Alexander Hamilton saw the rapidly growing power of this secret society, and was in favor of meeting it with a counter organization, for which he drew a plan; but nothing came of it, unless it be true, as alleged, that Hamilton inspired the paragraph in Washington's Farewell Address, in which there is a warning against secret organizations.

came of it, unless it be true, as alleged, that Hamiton inspired the paregraph in Washington's Farewell Address, in which there is a warning against secret organizations.

After the election of Jefferson the old federal party became pretty effectually prostrated, and then a division arose in the democratic (republican) party, between the friends of Clinton, Chancellor Livingston and Colonel Burr. The latter was accused of party disloyalty, and Colonel John Swartwout detended him, getting into a dispute with Clinton, which led to a duel, in which Swartwout get lamed for life. De Witt Clinton was an early member of Tammany, and at one time scribe of the council; but he was also early at war with the regular Tammanyites, and the struggle was long and bliter.

Daniel D. Tomphins was the republican candidate for Governor in 1806, and he soon became a man of mark. The duel with Hamilton was the political funeral of Burr, and the trial for treason took him forever out of the way. In 1830 Lieutenant Governor Broome died and De Witt Clinton were nominated by members of the Legislature to fill his place. Tammany opposed him because of his "ambition, untempered by honesty; his lukewarmness toward Madison, his eleventh-hour support of the embargo." &c. Meetings and counter meetings were held, and scenes of violence were enacted such as were afterward common in Tammany Hall. In 1811 Clinton got the vote of this State for President in spite of the opposition of the Tammany Society; but Madison was re-elected President, and the republicans kept the national power.

THE FIRST HALL—WAR WITH ENGLAND.

On the 13th of May, 1811, the Society was out in full Indian costume, and Grand Sachem Clarkson Crolius laid the corner stone of the first Tammany Hall (now the Sua office). An oration was spoken by Alpheus Sherman. The first hall was a plain brick building, of three stories, with a steep roof. Subsequently another story was added and the roof made far. The ballroom was long famous as the best dancing floor in the city.

It is need

corner stone long bore the following inscription:—
"In the name of the spirits of the densited free—sacred
to the memory of that portion of American seamen,
soldiers and citizens who porished on board of the prison
ships of the British at the Wallahout during the Revolution—this is the corner some of the vanite rected by the
Tammany Society or Columbian Order, which contains the
remains, the ground for which was bestowed by John Jacksom, Nassau Island, season of blossoms, year of discovery
3 bith, of the institution the 19th and of American Independence the 32st. April 6, 1868."

Tammany Society or Columbian Order, which contains the remains, the ground for which was bestowed by John Jackson. Nassau Island, soason of blossoms, year of discovery Sitth, of the institution the 19th and of American Independence the \$2d. April 6, 1808."

For this ceremony the members of the society, with more than a hundred veterans of the Revolution for pall bearers, headed by Sammel Osgood and Henry Rutgers, crossed the river in thirteen row-boats, each boat holding one tribe and one coffin filled with bones.

When the unpleasantness with England was over parties took somewhat different positions. The federalists were less formidable, though among them were some very able leaders. Clinton's friends managed generally to help the federalists, in which cases the Tammany men would be in a decided minority. Clinton never spared his Tammany enemies. When he became Governor he turned out every Bucktail place-holder that he could reach; just as he did when his friends got control of the Common Council of this city and he was Mayor. The fight against Clinton by the Tammany Society went on, with no success worth notting, until the great Governor dropped dead in his chair in the Capitol at Albany, on the 11th of February, 1828.

It is a fact that looks somewhat queer in these days that in 1819 the Tammany Society was in favor of a protective tariff and sent an address to that effect to several prominent men and to the newspapers. Resolutions were also passed in favor of homespun for clothes in preference to imported cloth.

TAMMAN'S GREAT HERO.

On the 26th of September, 1827, the Tammany Society, through the General Committee, came out for General Jackson, and ever thereafter claimed the honor of first nominating him. At any rate, 'Old Hickory' never had more ardent supporters than the big and little Indians of the Nassau Street Wigwam. He was, and is yet, their here, and their highest enthusiasin was got up on the 8th of January to celebrate the amilton for the first feet of the first part of the first part of the George W. Clinton, De Witt Clinton, Stephen and Churchill C. Cambreleng, Sheriff Conner, Treasurer John J. Cisco, General John Cochrane, Mayor Cooper, Cadwallader C. Colden, Governor Dix, Daniel E. Delavan, Judge Donohue, Mayor Ely, Mayor Gunther, Jesse Hoyt, Judah Hammond, Emanuel B. Hart, Governor Hoffman, Mayor Hall, Josiah Ouden Hoffman, Thomas Hertell, John T. Irving, Comptroller Kelly, Robert Kelly, Brockholst Livingston, John McKeon, Hugh Maxwell, Dr. Samuel L. Mitchell, John Pintard, Recorder Riker, Mayor Radciffe, Sheriff Reilly, Philip Schuyler, John and Robert Swartwout, Levi D. Slamm, Edward Sanford, Peter Sharpe, Melancthon Smith, Governor Tompkins, Governor Tilden, Mayor Tiemann, John Targee, Dougias Taylor, Judge Ushoeffer, Pierre C. Yan Wyck, William Pitt Van Ness, John Van Buren, Mayor Varian, Gulian C. Verplanck, Mayor Westerveit, Mayor Wood, Peter H. Wendover, Marinus Willett, Mayor Wickham, &c.; but these are but a beginning.

veil, Mayor Wood, Peter H. Wendover, Marinus Willett, Ma br Wickham, &c.; but these are but a beginning.

Look over the civil list and the Common Council manual and those named will be found in all legislative positions, from Assistant Alderman to United States Senator; in the Assembly, in the State Senate, in the special convention and in Congress. In the executive branches as governors and mayors; in the executive branches as governors and mayors; in the pudicial departments aif the way up to chancellors. Especially in the legislation and government of our own State the Tammany Society, through its abject wembers, has had great influence since the beginning of the century.

THE TAMMANY SOCIETY AT HOME.

It is, of course, in the city of New York that this society has exercised the most of its power. It was hardly a match for Clinton in the State, but in local affairs its force has always been potent. The first Common Council elected after the beginning of the society had two or three Tammany men on its roll. When Radelliffe and Colden and Allen were mayors, and the renowned Riker was Recorder, the Tammany Society was largely represented in the City Hall. From 1824 to 1834 the Jacksonian democrats—that is, Tammany men—kept the upper hand in nearly all the charter elections.

In 1834 the amended charter gave the election of Mayor to the people. Cornelius W. Lawrence was the regular democratic candidate and Gulian C. Verplanck his whig opponent. Verplanck was a member of Tammany, but whether Lawrence was we do not know—propably he was. The society favored Lawrence, and he was elected by a small majority. He was rechosen in 1835 and 1836 without serious opposition.

About this time the native American party grew up

Saltivity. 5,048 32 St. Bernard's 1,874 30 per position of the many per position of the party and majority. He was rechosen in 1835 and 1856 without serious opposition.

About this time the native american party grew up and was strongly opposed by the Tammany Society and democrate pearly. In 1837 the democracy was democratized and the whigs and natives elected as the democratized and the whigs and natives elected as the democratized and the whigs and natives elected as the democratic beat im with Issae L. Varian in the democratise beat im with Issae L. Varian a member of the Pornic, and the next spring Bobert H. Morris, the Recorder, was chosen, also other three years—a Jacksonian democrate, but not a Tammany Society member.

In the meantime the natives had gained largely, and in 1844 they triumpnantly elected James Harper. In 1849 they went down, and William F. Havelney, not as Indian, was elected. He was followed by Andrew H. Mickle, the tobaccounst, and McKhad was beaten in 1848 by Havelneyer. In 1849 the wings chase Caleb N. Woodhull, and in 1850 (in November) former elections had been in April) they elected Ambrose C. Kingsland over Fernando Wood. Mayors now held for two years. In 1852 Jacob G. Westervell, a member of the Tammany Society. The vote was:—Wood, 19,987; Barker, 18,553; Hunt, 16,388; Herrick, 5,712. The whigs generally voted for Barker. Wood was elected in 1856. The time of voting was a member of the Tammany Society. Fernando the Sand was a member of the Tammany Society. Fernando tried to capture the old society by getting in new members; but he talled, was provided in the two terms thave had charge of the conventions of the party must be held in 18mmany Hall, with the consent of the Tammany Society. Fernando tried to capture the old society by getting in new members; but he talled, was provided in the two terms thave had charge of the conventions of the party must be held in the sack was a nember of the Tammany Society. Fernando tried to capture the old society by getting in new members; but h

ther carried off most of the Tammany votes and George Opdyke, republican, got in. Fernando then abandoned local strife, soon after went to Congress and is thore now.

The sorriest experience of the old Tammany Society was with Tweed. He, mainly through the indifference of the quiet members, captured the party machinery, and how he ran it we all know. Through the efforts of Governor Tidden, Comptroller Keily, Charles O'Conor and others Tweed's gang were ousted, and Augustus Schell, the present Grand Sachem, put on the toga. It is hardly necessary to go into details of recent events. We may add that Mayor Ely adds one more to the members of the Tammany Society who have kept warm the Mayor's chair.

EXTENS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Tammany Society who have kept warm the Mayor's chair.

EXTENT OF MEMBERSHIP.

Soon after the war with Great Britain the Tammany Society had over three thousand members. There are not more than eight hundred now, and a large proportion of these pever come to the meetings. In the most exciting contests the vote has never risen to four hundred. Usually from seventy-five to one hundred may be seen at the regular meetings. In 1851 or 1852 the old society had only fifty-nine active members, and the greatest care was taken in admitting candidates, as the intention was to keep the society about as it then stood. But there soon came divisions in the democratic party—hards, softs, &c.—and the members of the society were, perhaps not unwillingly, made more active in party work. To be Grand Sachem was a laudable ambition; so one and another got in friends to vote for them and the society rapidly increased its membership.

The parades that once interested the town were long ago abandoned. The very last turn out was at the occupation of the present hall, when about one hundred and fifty Indians (not in costume) were in procession. The rullest turn out of late years was at the funeral of Grand Sachem Lorenzo B. Shepard, about twenty years ago.

At first the society could hold property only to

about twenty years ago.

At first the society could hold property only to such amount as would produce an income of \$5,000 a year. To make all smooth for the new hall in Fourteenth street the sum was extended to \$50,000 a year. The present hall has been occupied a little over ten years.

The present han has been expenses.

The rise and fall of the anti-Masons, equal rights party, of the Know Nothings, of the old hunkers and barnburners, and the hards and softs, all more or less disturbed and divided the Tammany Society. As to anti-Masons, they were dead against them; also as to Know Nothings. The equal rights or aggressive party was noisy but short lived. The others were democratic family quarrels that are almost forgotion.

as to know nothings. The equal rights of aggressive party was noise but short lived. The others were democratic family quarrels that are almost forgotten.

It is now alleged that Comptroller Kelly is seeking to get the upper hand in the society for his own purposes, and an injunction has been granted, on which there is to be a hearing soon. The Henalish has given all the particulars of this new trouble.

WHENCE IS TAMMANY'S POWER?

This remarkable society began with our national government, and has continued unbroken and unchanged for ninety years. It has exercised a wonderful influence in the choice of officers and the administration of government. It is as wise as the screpent, but is it as harmless as the dove. Often in its time this society of a few hundred active members, and these represented by a board of thirteen sachems, of whom one was the Grand Sachem, usually wielding unquestioned power, has worked wonders. Few suspect, and fewer comprehend, the extent of the influence that this purely local association has exerted. To its agency, more than another, is due the fact that for the last three-quarters of a century New York city has been the most potent political centre in the Union. Greater than a party, insemuch as it has been the master and maker of parties, it has seen one political organization after another rise, flourish and fall in endiess succession; yet it has always been ready, with vigor unimpaired, to challenge and attack the next comer. Imitators it has lad in abundance, but not one of them has succeeded in catching that secret of management that has given Tammany party has not only furnished the most capable politicins, but has managed to make alliances with the most powerful outside of its own ranks. For a quarter of a century it has at no time numbered under its banner anywhere near a majority of the voters of this city; yet during all this time it has managed to hold almost uninterruptedly the lion's share of power. Is this remarkable power nearing its end?

TAMMANY COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZA-TION.

The Tammany Committee on Organization met last evening and re-elected Augustus Schell as chairman. Other officers for the ensuing year were also chosen.

AN ANTI-TAMMANY CAUCUS.

A caucus of the anti-Tammany and republican Aldermen took place last night at the Monument House. The session lasted until near midnight, but nothing of importance was done. Some of the committees of the Board of Aldermen that are yet to be named were partially made up.

CATHEDRAL FAIR.

THE FINANCIAL RESULTS OF THE UNDERTAKING-A SPLENDID SHOWING ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF

THE LEDGER.

The final meeting of the General Finance Com nittee of the fair in aid of the new St. Patrick's Cathedral was held a short time ago at the Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank, Mr James Lynch, the chairman and treasurer, presiding.

Among the gentlemen present were Very Rev. William Quinn, V. G.; Rev. Fathers Farley, Macdowall, Farrelly and Donnelly; Brother Adrian, of the Pro tectory, and Messrs. Henry L. Hoguet, Jeremiah Devlin, John Mullaly, Lummis, Moore, Feely and Colonel

Mr. Lynch, as treasurer, presented a statement of Rev. A. J. Donnelly and Messrs. Henry L. Hoguet and Jeremiah Devlin a committee to audit the accounts, and the treasurer's statement was ordered to be printed and copies supplied to the papers and to

A special committee, consisting of Rev. H. C. Mac-dowall, Messrs. William Lummis, John Mullaly and Colonel Chalfin was, on motion, appointed to pre

Colonel Chalfin was, on motion, appointed to prepare resolutions of thanks to the various persons and firms who contributed valuable and necessary articles to the fair.

The secretary was instructed to record on the minutes the thanks of the General Committee to the various sub-committees, including the Floor Committee, the Treasurer's Committee and the gentlemen of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, who superintended the admissions and receipts at the doors, and to others whose personal assistance materially lightened the labors of the General Committee.

A vote of thanks was also unanimously tendered to the Chairman and Treasurer, Mr. James Lynch, for his exact and faithful performance of his arduous and responsible duties; also to Mr. William Lummis, to Mr. John Mullely, the cutter of the Journal of the Pairr, to Mr. H. Moore, and to Very Rev. Father Quinn, whose part in the organization and super-

Quinu, whose part in the organization and super-vision of the fair was well known.

After mutual congratulations on the gratifying re-sults of the fair, which have surpassed the most sanguine expectations, the committee adjourned size

Patrick's Ca-		St. Ann's	\$2,327	96
hedral \$12,786 40		St. Peter's	2,118	5
Francis Xa-		Most Holy Re-		
ier's	8,324 08	deemer	2,106	33
James'	7,294 42	Transfiguration.	2,067	18
Vincent Fer-	The state of the	Holy Cross	2,035	34
er's	7,244 10	St. Rose of Lima	2,026	65
Michael's	6,259 60	St. Columba's	2,000	71
Agnes'	5,055 20	St. Anthony's	1,933	80
tivity	5,048 32	St. Bernard's	1.874	30
John Evan-	- Contractor	Holy Name	1,802	11
elist	3,823 16	St. Elizabeth's	1,752	78
Stephen's	8,568 68	St. Cocilia's	1,734	27
Boniface's	3,568 50	Epiphany	1,708	71
Lawrence's .	3,396 78	St. Joseph's,	3000	
Joseph's	3,169 52	Harlem	1,522	88
red Heart	3,166 69	St. Bridget's	1,502	37
Mary's	3,116 71	Annunciation	1,456	
Andrew's	3,010 54	St. Teresa's	1,346	97
Jerome's	3,000 00	Assumption	1,275	67
ly Innocents.	2,690 94	St. Vincent de		
Gabriel's	2,509 08	Paul's	1,130	70
Paul's, Har-		St. Francis As-		
em	2,350 09	Sist	1,001	20
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eption	2,348 58	tist's	945	72
Paul the		Our Lady of		
postle			734	
ora			28,318	
reshment dep	artment		5,369	
ral pavilion			2,931	51

SPECIALISTS VS. TRUSTEES.

OBJECTIONS TO THE HERALD'S SCHOOL INSPEC-TION REPORTS REVIEWED.

The writer of the following letter is the gentleman who in 1870 was commissioned by the Japanese gov-ernment to procure all possible information about the school system of the United States, after which Japan proposed to remodel her own. In fulfil-ment of this commission Mr. Doyle collected school reports and other printed material, and inspected numerous school buildings with all of their appointments. As he has also seen the internal arrange-ments of the native schools of China and Japan he is fully competent to suggest compariso

To the Epiron of the Haradi:—
At the invitation of your inspector, and to gratify a curiosity inspired upon my return to this city after a prolonged residence abroad. I had the honor to accompany him on his inspection or several a prolonged residence abroad. I had the honor to accompany him on his inspection or several a prolonged residence abroad. I had the honor to accompany him on his inspection or several a proper thereon. The schools thus visited by me were Nos. 8, 13, 22, 25, 36, 37, 38 and 70, and 1 must say that under the circumstances and conditions in which I saw these schools there is not a word in that report in reference to them that I would not reiterate with emphasis, and it affords me pleasure now to observe that in the severe tests to which that report is being daily subjected the great mass of evidence laken from the more than substantiate it. But, as some objections more than substantiate it. But, as some objections have been offered by school trustees which unmistakably raise questions of veractity. I deem it my duty to offer my evidence in support of the fidelity and truth of your inspector.

To make it intelligible and effective it will be necessary to put it in the torm of a review of these objections and the points involved, as they appeared in different numbers of your recent issues.

This we intend to have carried out in the future as a precaution. This gentleman states in another part of the interview that "when janitors are a long time in they are agt to get lazy and indifferent. Mr. Trustee Limbeck, however, takes a different new with regard to how. 30, which he styles as "a precaution." This gentleman states in another part of the material part of the more standard precaution of the darkest, most uncomortable class rooms in the city—so dark that on a bright sumy day, as it was, the figures on the blackboard were hardly percention of the darkest, most uncomortable class rooms in the city—so dark that on a bright sumy day, as it was, the digures on the blackboard were hardly percenti

ward, as reported in your issue of the of mass, where he says:

"We ought to have an officer in the Board of Education whose sole duty would be to look after the drainage, ventilation and general hygienic management of the schools. The Superintendent of School Buildings) has a wriety of other matters to look after, and there is quite enough business in this line to take up one man's attention," and when it is further considered that no attention whatever is paid to the considered that no attention whatever is paid to the thermometrical records and regulations of the temperature in these schools, Mr. Trustee Powers admits that "there is room for improvement and that the janitors might attend to their duties more closely, and we intend from this out to have them do so. We will require of them in future not to leave the closets unattended for a single haif hour." This is another salutary effect of your inspector's report. The necessity for it is self-evident, and it is worthy of remark here that in none of the school houses visited by us during recess did we see a janitor on duty. Mr. Powers further says they are now "drawing up a code of rules for the guidance of the janitors," and further, "while I saw that there were things to remedy, and that the criticisms were in some cases true. I did not altogether approve of the article." But he does not state what it is in the report that he disapproves of, unless it be that there should be any report at all.

Mr. Trustee Wangler seems very anxious to have it understood that he expresses his views, "all things considered," and "don't think the children can be hurt by the nature of the ventilation," and admits that the schools are not perfect "and we must make the best we can of them. Everything can't be done at once." He says he was "in No. 36 a few days after that report appeared, and the appearance of things was not quite as represented." Possibly not—net "quite." Janitors read the Herald, perhaps, and may have improved their time in the interim. This is straining very hard to recite or discredic your inspector's report. It won't do, for he admitted that he had not been in the school for a week before he saw the report.

not been in the sencet for a week before he report.
In conclusion I will only call attention to the remarks of Mr. Joseph F. Rogers, Chairman of the Eighth ward Board of Trustees, in respect to school No. 8, as reported in your issue of the 2d inst. He says:—'It was true, every word of it. You couldn't exaggerate the subject if you tried.' I shall never forget the effect upon me when I entered that ground

has room.

I had no idea, when starting out with your in-I had no lices when the spector, that it would become necessary for me to bear evidence to what I should see. But, nevertheless, I now do so voluntarily and cheerfully. Very respectfully, &c., WM. H. DOYLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:--I have read the statements of certain gentlemen-trustees of the public schools of the city-in your issue of January 2, 1879. I am willing to say that I

was invited by the Herald inspector to accompany him on his visit to the primary department of Grammar School No. 32; that I saw children of the tenderest years packed (I was told for several hours a day) in diminuitive class rooms on the ground foor and not a dezen feet from the urinals and necessaries, which were in a condition simply beastly. I saw no method of ventilating these rooms except by opening the windows and admitting the foul and sickening odors from these abominations. I was present when the Principal of that school told your inspector that the "janitor's standard of cleanliness was marvellously low." APPLETON MORGAN.

30 PARK PLACE, NLW YORK, Jan. 4, 1879. was invited by the HenalD inspector to accompany

PROPESSIONAL INDORSUMENT OF THE HERALD REPORTS.

(From the Medical Record, Jan. 4, 1879.1 So much has been said in these columns of the want of sanitary regulation in our public schools that we feel almost like apologizing to our readers for referring to the subject once more. We are so armly impressed, however, with a duty we owe to the public in general, and the school children in particular, that we cannot omit an opin particular, that we cannot omit an opportunity of repeating an old story in the hope that it may be heard at last, and that its moral will be taken to heart. The school children cannot speak for themselves, the teachers dare not, and the Board of Education, which is omnipotent in school natters in this city, says that the sanitary condition of the schools is perfect. This latter assertion would appear to settle the question, but, unfortunately, it does not, as the fact of frequent inspections abundantly prove.

For years the Board of Education has refused every reasonable appear to remedy defects in ventilation, in heating, in lighting the buildings and in caring for the water closets outside. The only answer that has been vouchsafed to such requests has been that the schools are in good enough condition, and that no change is necessary. Several members of the Board have, by vistue of the emergency, created themselves authorities in sanitary matters, and there has been a deadlock

to any impartial investigation of the real merits of the question. When we consider that the Board is managed in the interests of a political ring, and that it is quite necessary that the ignorance, neglect of duty, and stupidity of the said Board should not be brought to light, the outlook toward reform is quite unpromising. We are encouraged, however, in secing that a new and powerful element is at work to bring about a change in the management of the affairs of the Board. The Herando has caused an inspection to be made of the school buildings, and has recently published a lengthy report upon the subject. No one can read this report, the authenticity and impartiality of which cannot be questioned, without being startled by the disclosures. Only a few of the schools were visited by the inspector, and these were principally primary departments of which some of the class rooms are upon the ground floor. The rooms are dark, ill ventilated, crowded, exposed to draughts of cold airon one side and intolerable heat on the other; and are in close proximity to water closets, which, by the negligence of janitors, are kept in an abominably flithy condition.

of fanitors, are kept in an abominacity introperation.

These facts are not by any means new to us, neither will they be to any one who has given any attention to public school hygiene in this city, but it is a matter of congratulation that they have been presented to the general public in a manner which may invite the attention of the Board and cause it to reconsider its oft-declared assertion that the sanitary condition of the schools is good.

FEDERAL PRISONS.

MR. FIERO'S REPORT ON THE EVIL OF THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF PUNISHING FEDERAL PRISONERS - DISCIPLINARY ESTABLISHMENTS CONTROLLED BY THE UNITED STATES RECOM-

received a long report from his assistant, William P. Fiero, regarding the treatment of United States prisoners confined in the different State prisons. Mr. Fiero has been engaged during the past year investi-gating this subject. He reports that most of the emplaints have been lodged by discharged convicts, and should be dismissed as groundless. At the same time he is satisfied that there is a great lack of that true measure and dignity of discipline and fair, impartial treatment of United States prisoners in these local prisons, which the government has a right to expect, but which it is in no position to de mand; that often the most unjust infractions of the safe rules of prison life were committed. While many, it physically able, were obliged to work, in one case a "respectably connected" convict was es-corted through the city streets in citizen's clothes to visit friends, and several so-called "gentlemen" were allowed "private table" and occasional use of their citizens' clothing. A notoriously bad convict in the Kings County Penitentiary found his sole and agree-able employment in the exercise of an officer's "trot-ters" on the quarter-mile track within the prison's outer walls. many, if physically able, were obliged to work, in

outer walls.

Cost of the present system.

He states that the food allowed is exceedingly coarse and in quantity far below the standard of a fair ration for a healthy person, and he believes it not worth one lifth the amount paid by the United States as the "actual and reasonable cost" of the subsistence of a prisoner. He submits that the peace and dignity of the United States demand the establishment of the proposed prison, and claims that the present lack of organized power in the general government to adequately punish the constantly increasing infractions of its laws begits a spirit of disregard for the manner of enforcing its penalties; and, again, it could not be known when the State would close its deors against the general government and refuse it could not be known when the State would close its doors against the general government and refuse to receive their convicts. Mr. Fiero finds that there is a broad distinction in the character of the offences against State and national laws, and argues that the mode and place of punishment should be correspondingly distinctive. The question is as to the duty of the government to these unfortunates, and he finds only one answer—a strict classification of prisoners—only to be done by the establishment of a federal prison. Mr. Fiero believes that this scheme will meet the approval of the Department of Justice, but meet much opposition in Congress on the ground of economy, and claims at the same time that it is an economical measure.

ceonomy, and claims at the same time that it is an economical measure.

ECONOMIC ASPECT.

Beferring again to the Kings County Ponitentiary, he shows that one-tenth of the expense of maintaining that institution for the year 1877—\$10,454—was credited as having been received "for board of United States convicts," and it had only one-thritich of the average number of prisoners. He further found that it cost the Treasury about \$200 a year for each prisoner, and that the cost (excluding carnings) for keeping a prisoner for the year was about \$120. He claims that after careful computation on actual figures, that allowing the United States the fair proportion of the earnings to which they are clearly entitled, this Penntentiary should have received from the government no more than \$500. Another consideration was that the majority of United States prisoners were intelligent and skilled laborers and in for long terms, and were of course more efficient and valuable in the shoe manufactory (the only convertabory than the great army of "trampers." Mr. Fiere estimates that such a structure as is required would cost about \$500,000. He remarks that the government already has several cligible sites for such an institution, and instances Governor's Island as one entirely under federal jurisdiction. He says the number of prisoners would reach from three hundred to five hundred, and the actual expense of the maintenance of this prison would be no more than \$60,000 a year, and the product of skilled labor would reach from \$50,000 to \$60,000, making it, as all prisons should be, self-sustaining if not a source of revenue, and at any rate a saving of \$150,000 per annum to the government. In conclusion be suggests that such a prison should be near New York city and that the prisoners from fifteen States could be economically transported to and received by it.

THE VASSAR ALUMNÆ.

The fourth annual meeting of the Vassar Alumna Association was held yesterday at Delmonico's. About seventy members were present. The business of the meeting was opened by the election of officers for the ensuing year, and by the adoption of various reports from the several committees. The officers elected were:—President, Mrs. Chumar Trask, '70; Vice President, Mrs. Sweetzer Winslow, '70; Secretary,

were:—President, Mrs. Chumar Trask, "70; Vice President, Mrs. Sweetzer Winslow, "70; Secretary, Miss Dodge, "76; Treasurer, Miss Amy Shepard, "78, Executive Committee—Miss Shepard, "75; Miss E. R. Coffin, "70; Miss Chander, "73, and Miss Pierson, "78. Miss Denton, chairman of the Committee on Alumni Rems, presented an entertaining report from the year 1867, inclusive. Letters of regret were read from President Cadiwell, the newly elected president of the college; Miss Maria Mitchell, Professor of Astronomy, and Professor Braislin. A telegram at the last moment amounced the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Ray. Professor Backus was the only representative of the college faculty.

Lunch was served at two o'clock, after which an adjournment was made to the parlors, where, in a brief speech. Mrs. Trask expressed pleasure in seeing so many of the alumni, saying that Vassar needed all the sympathy and enthusiasm possible from her alumni to demonstrate that higher education for women meant for them a higher and noblor womanhood. After the music a poem was read by Miss Brigham, ot 1874, entitled "Alux Mater." Miss Coffin next introduced a set of resolutions referring to the death of the tale president, Dr. F. R. Raymond, in August last. A memorial tablet for the college chapel was proposed by Mrs. Trask and at the same time an unofficial report was made of the Memorial Scholarship rund for Dr. Raymond, lately organized by the Philalethean Society. Lastly a resolution was passed whereby the Eaccutive Committee for the next year is empowered to act upon the admission of friends of Vassar and its alumni to the annual meetings.

After an hour's social greetings and conversation, interspersed with music, the very pleasant reunion dissolved.

INDIGNANT SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The school teachers of the Seventeenth ward are considerably excited over the action of the Board of Prustees in appointing to fill a vacancy created by the death of Miss Laura L. Brown a teacher who belonged to another school in the same ward. The teachers say that all the vacancies during the past six years have been filled with transfers from the Fourteenth street school. It seems to them rather have that the direct result of trouble in another school should reflect upon them, who are in no way connected with the aforesaid trouble. They have, as the language of their petition to the Board of Trustees says, conscientiously striven to do their duty, and the marks received in one of their annual caminations by the Superintendent compare favorably with those received by other schools in the city. They ask that the vacancy which has occurred by the death of the fourth assistant teacher should be filled by regular promotion from the same school in which the vacancy occurred.

A meeting of the teachers was held yesterday afterneon in University place, but they declined to give their cognomens to the reporter, so that nothing remains to say beyond the fact that the lady teachers of the Seventeenth ward are being badly treated by the trustees. belonged to afother school in the same ward.

the trustees. JUSTICE PINCKNEYS TRIAL.

The investigation into the charges preferred against Justice Walter S. Pinckney, of the Seventh District Civil Court, was continued yesterday before Referee Givil Court, was continued yesterday before Referes Buell. Mr. Albert impart, of No. 74 West Forty-initia street, was the first witness, and he testified that he had repeatedly acted as fivor in the Seventh District Court, but never saw Justice Pinckney under the in-fluence of liquor. S.V. R. Cooper, a lawyer and ex-Alderman, swore that Justice Pinckney s'department on the bench was always above repreach and his mind clear and un-clouded.

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Measure. A. Alikens, Charles E. Lexow and J. M. King, all lawyers, gave similar testimony.

Atter a number of other witnesses had been examined Referee Buell notified counsel to have all their witnesses present to-morrow, when the case must be closed.

The hearing was then adjourned until to-morrow status P. M.

ON TO HIGH BRIDGE.

Battling With Rock and Ice on Ninth and Eighth Avenues.

PROGRESS OF THE METROPOLITAN EXTENSION.

Stirring Scenes in Building the Structure to the Harlem River.

On one of these glorious but freezing winter morn

ings-like yesterday, for instance-there is hardly a scene of more stirring sights to be witnessed in the metropolis than is presented all along the west side extension of the Metropolitan "L." Reference has already been made in the HERALD to the magnificent energy and extraordinary rapidity with which this great work has been pushed, in the heart of an unusually severe winter, from Ninth avenue and Eighty-third street to Eighth avenue and 130th street. Ordinarily this part of the city in midwinter is strangely deserted. On Ninth avenue, between Eighty-third and 110th streets, there is hardly a building, the ground is banked up high with snow or deeply frozen over, and the avenue, which has neither been graded nor paved, looks like ome desolate country road. Now all is activity and bustle here, and the whole extent of the avenue between the points mentioned is lined with busy workmen, who appear to be invulnerable to the cold, Excavations are being dug, bricks are hauled, stones re pulled along, rock is drilled and blasted or raised by derricks, barrels of cement are transported. stone is broken, and the whole avenue is in that perfect condition of chaos which Sixth avenue and Third avenue presented not long ago, only aggravated by several feet deep, uninterrupted as their aggregation is by the traffic of vehicles. The foreman of each section walks about encased in a long ulster and sealskin cap, beating his chest to keep himself warm, and, when asked whether this was not rather 'breezy" work yesterday, one of these gentlemen replied that it was "rather warm, considering."

ON NINTH AVENUE.

The Metropolitan "L" Company have opened an office at one of the few buildings on the line of this Ninth wenue section—namely, over a grocery shop at 106th street. This is the official centre from which half a lozen crack engineers and a dozen experienced inspectors and foremen issue forth every morning, and from which also that most welcome of all personages, the paymaster, starts upon his round. The laborers who are employed here are picked men from the gangs formerly engaged upon the construction of the imagined what a godsend this work has proved to them and their families in this cruel winter. But it is terribly hard work. The excavations vary in depth from fifteen to thirty-five feet, and in places near 110th street, where the soil has been filled in, the frost penetrates so easily that the ground is frozen four feet deep. Let the reader calize the sufferings of these men, when, on that cruel Friday a week ago, they tried to cut their way through four feet of ice in some of these excavations! And yet the work goes bravely on, and Mr. Waterhouse, one of the engineers in charge, stated that out of 370 excavations 160 had already been opened in the very few days that have elapsed since which the contract has been awarded. Some of the men, with ears rozen, benumbed hands and frosty lips, would still nsist upon keeping at work, seeing, as they did, the auxiety of their superiors to carry out the company's notto, "On to High Bridge!" Great rocks weighing half a ton have to be raised by means of derricks, and

half a ton have to be raised by means of derricks, and so difficult have been some of these excavations that it has taken eight picked men as much as a full week to dig a hole.

THE HUNDRED AND TENTH STREET CUEVE.
At 110th street the line curves from Ninth into Eighth avenue, and here the company have purchased large blocks of land in order to obtain a perfectly casy and smooth curve. But 110th street at this point presents grave engineering difficulties between Ninth and Eighth avenue. At Ninth avenue the street has risen to the abrupt height of a steep hill, and from here there is a rapid and dangerous descent toward Eighth avenue. In order to overcome this it will be tound necessary to raise the piers of the foundations toward Eighth avenue high above the ground, the total height of these piers upon which the columns are yet to rest at this point being not less than thirty feet. As it would look very ugly to see these piers rising above the street the ground will have to be filled up considerably. Altogether, however, the structure on this upper section will present some high points. From Eighty-third street the grade is continuously upward to the summit at 100th street, where the columns will reach the exceptional height of forty-five feet.

ALONG EIGHTH AVENUE.

From Hoth Access the line passes out into the Eighth avenue, where it then has a clean aweep of several miles to the river, or what is properly called liver avenue. Here the ground does not look quite so chaotic as on Ninth avenue, and there evidently has been far less contention with rock and ice—two of the bitterest enemies of rapid transit this winter. At 120th street—the present limit of the work—there is always a crowd of extra workmen waiting "to get a chance," and it there is no regular employment for them they at least enjoy the signt of the fine-array of sleighs that come dashing along from St. Nicholas avenue at a ratiling gait. Mr. Conover, a hale, hearty old gentleman, is in charge of the work, and he gave the writer some interesting information as to its good concavations have to be dug, and the 90 piters which they are to sustain will require nearly ten million bricks and twenty thousand barrels of cement. Eighten hundred foundation blue flag stones are also necessary, which have to be quarried and cut especially for the holes. Already over seven thousand barrels of cement and two million bricks are on the ground. In reference to the stones, Mr. Cenover says that during the frosty weather no quarrying could be done, which now would naturally somewhat delay the work. Already over 1,900 men are employed, and this number will shortly be increased to over 2,000. They begin work at seven, when there is hardly daylight, and, work at seven, when there is hardly daylight, and, which is a superse of the propers of the region of ladies and gentlemen stop their sleighs and anxiously inquire about the progress of the undertaking. They drove their sleighs down between the exavations and appeared to inspect their condition with the very groatest litterest. Then there were many spectators and curious sightscers who had availed themselves of this fine, bracing with the rocked to the propers of the undertaking, they drove their sleighs and, some readences at along its line; whether the road of the propers of the w